



## Enquiry on the Implementation of MCPFE commitments 2007

and

## Reporting on the MCPFE Qualitative Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

**COUNTRY:**

**ESTONIA**

Date of submission:

**National correspondent:**

Name:	Indrek Laas
Organisation:	Center of Forest Protection and Silviculture
Address:	Rõõmu tee 2, 51013 TARTU
Phone/Fax:	+372 5118069/ +372 7339735
E-mail:	indrek.laas@metsad.ee

**Other professionals involved in the reporting process:**

Name:	Rauno Reinberg
Organisation:	Ministry of the Environment
E-mail:	rauno.reinberg@envir.ee
Name:	Kalle Karoles
Organisation:	Center of Forest Protection and Silviculture
E-mail:	kalle.karoles@metsad.ee
Name:	
Organisation:	
E-mail:	

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## Abbreviations

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
C&I	Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GCC	General Co-ordinating Committee
ha	Hectares
MCPFE	Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
VD	Vienna Declaration
V1-5	Vienna Resolutions 1 to 5
L1-2	Lisbon Resolutions 1 and 2
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

# 1. Background

In preparation for the Fifth Ministerial Conference (Warsaw, Poland, 5-7 November 2007), the MCPFE decided to review and report on progress in implementing the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in Vienna (2003). Also, further progress made since 2003 in implementing commitments made at the Ministerial Conferences in Lisbon (1998), Helsinki (1993), and in Strasbourg (1990) should be reported through this enquiry.

In addition, it was decided to report on the MCPFE qualitative indicators on sustainable forest management (SFM). The reporting format for the improved qualitative Pan-European Indicators for SFM addresses policies, institutions and instruments in general as well as more specifically by policy areas. The improved qualitative indicators comprise a reporting format, which is grouped into:

- A) Overall policies, institutions and instruments for sustainable forest management,
- B) Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area.

The ministers gathered in Vienna reaffirmed that the criteria and indicators for SFM were a tool for monitoring, assessing and reporting progress on sustainable forest management. In consequence, the enquiry should collect the relevant data and information for reporting on the qualitative Pan-European Indicators for SFM in the context of the MCPFE report on the “State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007” to be presented at the forthcoming Fifth Ministerial Conference.

The next Ministerial Conference will also provide an opportunity to assess the implementation of the political commitments on forests made by the European Ministers in Vienna. In order to answer this question and to understand the lessons learned from the work conducted so far, it was decided that the implementation report of the MCPFE commitments for the upcoming Ministerial Conference will be based on the replies by signatory states and the European Commission to the enquiry questions contained in this document and the related evaluation. This will form a part of the report on the implementation of MCPFE commitments to be presented at the forthcoming Fifth Ministerial Conference.

The General Coordinating Committee (GCC) of the MCPFE recommended that one enquiry would cover the MCPFE qualitative indicators as well as the MCPFE commitments. It was further recommended by the Advisory Group on the reporting on the “State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007” to include the enquiry on the quantitative indicator 6.4 “Expenditure for Services” in this enquiry, as the MCPFE country representatives are deemed to be the most appropriate respondents to this particular indicator.

## 2. General guidance on reporting

This enquiry on the implementation of the MCPFE commitments and on the MCPFE qualitative indicators for SFM should enable responding countries to provide the best possible information for two reports:

1. “State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007”
2. “Implementation of the MCPFE Commitments – pan-European and national Activities 2003-2007”.

The main focus of the enquiry is on assessing and reporting the progress on SFM in European forests as well as the progress in the implementation of commitments the signatory states and the European Community made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Vienna, Austria, 2003). The enquiry should also gather the information on the main changes or further developments in the implementation of the Helsinki, Strasbourg and Lisbon Resolutions since 2003.

The enquiry consists of the following parts:

**Part A:** “Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM” is structured according to the MCPFE qualitative indicators Part A. It comprises:

**Section 1:** MCPFE qualitative indicators Part A: Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM. These five indicators aim to describe overall policy approaches for a sustainable forest management. Additionally, significant changes since the last Ministerial Conference

should be reported. This part will be used for the report on the *State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007*.

**Section 2:** MCPFE commitments of the Fourth Ministerial Conference 2003 (Vienna Declaration, Vienna Resolutions V1-5 as well as clearly related MCPFE commitments of the Third Ministerial Conference 1998 (Lisbon Resolution L-2). This part will be used for the *Report on the National Implementation of MCPFE Commitments*.

**Section 3:** Further measures taken related to the qualitative indicators and comments provide the opportunity to report on further measures under a specific qualitative indicator and to provide data specifications or explanations.

**Part B:** "Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area" is structured according to the MCPFE qualitative indicators Part B. It comprises:

**Section 1:** MCPFE qualitative indicators Part B: Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area. Twelve indicators under Part B aim to provide information on specific policies for certain policy areas in addition to the information provided in Part A. This concerns the most specific policy objectives, the main institutions relevant to achieve the objective as well as the main policy instruments used. Additionally, significant changes since the last Ministerial Conference in 2003 should be reported.

**Section 2:** MCPFE commitments of the Fourth Ministerial Conference 2003 (Vienna Declaration, Vienna Resolutions V1-5) as well as clearly related MCPFE commitments of the Third Ministerial Conference 1998 (Lisbon Resolution L-2)

**Section 3:** Further measures taken related to the qualitative indicator and comments provide the opportunity to report on further measures under a specific qualitative indicator.

**Part C:** General reporting on Lisbon, Helsinki and Strasbourg Resolutions

**Part D:** Enquiry on the quantitative indicator 6.4 "Expenditure for Services"

*While the enquiry to signatory states and the European Commission requests reporting on MCPFE qualitative indicators and on MCPFE commitment implementation in an integrated format, both the analysis of responses and of the reporting will be separate. As specified in the previous chapter, this enquiry will result in two separate reports:*

1. *"State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007"*
2. *"Implementation of MCPFE commitments 2003-2007"*

For reporting, please note the following:

1. In the tables all requests for responses are marked by [     ], visible on computer screens (not necessarily on print-outs). All requests for responses are limited to approx. 100 words or 650 letters (incl. blank spaces) automatically.
2. The sum of texts provided per indicator in Parts A and B should not exceed 2 pages, and be around 1 page, if possible.
3. *Section 2 in Parts A and B presents an abbreviated summary of the original commitment text. This should facilitate identifying topics addressed, but not replace the original commitment. Please read the original commitments as specified in the reference numbers. These specify the document as well as the commitment number as numbered in the original commitment. (e.g. VD/7 = Vienna Declaration, para7, V1/9,12 = Vienna Resolution 1, paras 9 and 12) V=Vienna, L=Lisbon*
4. The requests in Section 2 of Parts A and B on the implementation of MCPFE commitments specify to report "**measures**", i.e. forest policy actions set to implement a commitment. *The responses should, as far as possible, be made in a form that allows identifying the type and magnitude of efforts undertaken.* In the responses, "Measures" should be classified or classifiable into the following categories:

Classes of “magnitude” for measures	Examples of documents related to “measures”
large measures: e.g. major programme	public programme document and/or related lists of projects
medium-size measure: individual projects	list of projects funded
small measures: e.g. individual actions	workshops organized, etc.

Degree of implementation of a reported measure
No measure taken (or blank space)
Measure in planning stage
Measure in implementation
Measure concluded

Degree of fulfillment of commitment through the measure reported
fully
partly
not or rather minor

**Each of the responses in Section 2 of Parts A and B will be classified and analysed in these three dimensions.**

5. In Part B please concentrate in particular on those indicators that are linked to the Vienna resolutions: B2 (carbon balance), B6 (biodiversity), B8 (economic viability) and B12 (cultural and spiritual values).
6. Please report on “measures” taken in the period 2003-2007 by the main body (Ministry) responsible for forestry, or where this main body played a key role. Countries with a federal structure are requested to focus first on major initiatives on the national level and to provide information on major federal measures, identifying the federal state in which the measure was taken.
7. Reporting on significant changes since 2003 will be analysed systematically, first by determining whether or not such changes were reported. No information is interpreted as “no significant change”.
8. Please provide further information on the measures taken, as deemed relevant, e.g. major partners in implementation, time period, budget involved, experiences made (lessons learned, obstacles encountered, solutions).
9. Please provide the latest information available unless otherwise requested.
10. Please specify reference documents as follows: - Author or institution. Year of publication (if published). Title. Reference Number. Publisher.
11. Information provided on the implementation of MCPFE commitment will be analysed quantitatively across countries according to the specifications as in paras 4 and 7, in addition to the substantive analysis.
12. The report *Implementation of the MCPFE Commitments – pan-European and national Activities 2003-2007* is foreseen to consist of a section on international implementation of the MCPFE commitments (the MCPFE Work Programme 2003-2007) as well as a summary analysis for each of the Parts A and B Section 2 as well as Part C of this enquiry.

## A. Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM

A.1 National forest programmes or similar				
Main characteristics of nfp or similar	general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to nfps since 2003 [max. 100 words]			
Reference document: <b>Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.</b>				
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> programme in implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> programme in review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> continuous process or other
Further information: <b>Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.</b>				
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.1: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:				
a) develop and apply nfps <sup>1</sup> in line with the MCPFE approach to nfps? (Ref.: V1/ 7)	<p>Please specify whether and in which form they were applied, and whether there is any important lesson for the MCPFE (usefulness, development needs,...) [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The principles of the Pan-European forest conferences, especially those concerning the criteria and indicators of sustainable forestry have been used in the preparation of the NFP. NFP preparation process followed the guidelines presented in the corresponding document (National Forest Programs; the Concept and its Potential) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- national sovereignty and country leadership of the process;</li> <li>- consistency with the national policy framework;</li> <li>- consistency with international agreements and commitments;</li> <li>- participation of all the stakeholders in the process;</li> <li>- holistic and inter-sectoral approach to the development of forestry;</li> <li>- holistic, long-term and interactive approach to the planning and implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the program.</li> </ul>			
b) identify and address key cross-sectoral dimensions in the context of nfps? (Ref.: VD/13,14; V1/ 5, 8)	<p>Please specify whether or not, main dimensions identified, and what major explicit measures were taken. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In NFP process different sectors such as rural development, industry, energy, environment etc. have been involved. The objectives in NFP are well coordinated with other sectoral policies and programs. Forestry is connected, either directly or indirectly with almost all the other spheres of social and economic life. To ensure the compatibility of forestry programs with developments in other areas, not only international agreements but also various processes of local significance have been reckoned with. The activities foreseen in the NFP have been correspondingly adjusted to the Estonian Nature Conservation Development Program 2035, Estonian National Environmental Strategy and the subsequent Environmental Action Plan, as well as the Basics of the Estonian Export Policy and the Rural Development Program for 2007–2011. Development goals set for forestry have already been reckoned with in the National Development Strategy, the new Rural Development Strategy and the National Tourism Development Program. Analyses addressing the planned use of timber as a renewable source of energy will form a basis for the prospective national development strategy for the energy sector and fuel consumption.</p>			
c) use the nfp process as a platform for cross-sectoral coordination, and to feed results into other policies? (Ref.: VD/ 16,19; V1/ 9,10,11)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, how nfp is used as a platform or initiator of a mechanism; who is involved; and in what specific other policies nfp results were explicitly included. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The involvement of cross-sectoral stakeholders has ensured the reflection of NFP in other inter-sectoral policies</p>			

<sup>1</sup> nfp = national forest programme

<p>d) Does the nfp address  - socio-cultural,  - biodiversity,  - carbon &amp; climate issues  (Ref.: V3/5; V5/ 5; V6/ 6)</p>	<p>Please specify for each, if yes, specify main explicit targets and measures taken. [max. 100 words]  Within the NFP following thematic areas have been dealt with:  forest area and land ownership issues of forest management, protection of ecosystems, the role of public institutions, public support to private forestry, objectives for the management of state forests, forest and wood industry, diversification of forest use and forest research and education, informing of the general public.</p> <p>The socio-cultural, biodiversity and carbon and climate issues have been addressed within those thematic areas.</p>
<p>e) promote participation of stakeholders in forest policy &amp; program development?  (Ref.:L1/2)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]  The NFP and Forest Policy were prepared in open processes involving all relevant stakeholders in forest sector, including representatives of different administrative sectors, the private sector and a large number of other organisations and private citizens. The cooperation has continued in the development of Forest Act and related regulations.</p>
<p><b>Further measures taken related to A.1 and comments:</b></p>	

Reporting notes:

1. „nfp“ is understood to comprise both nfps or similar documents or processes. If nfps exist, please use this as main reference. If similar documents are used for answering, please specify the document (or process) under “Reference document”.
2. Reporting on general characteristics could include formal status of the document, validity period of current document, duration of process, range of stakeholders involved, major results or key lessons.

<b>A.2 Institutional frameworks</b>			
Main characteristics of institutional framework	<p>general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to institutional frameworks since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The Estonian State Forestry Administration consists of Department of Forest of the Ministry of Environment, 15 County Environment Departments, Environment Inspectorate and Estonian Centre of Forest Protection and Silviculture, responsible for policy implementation, supervision, forest inventory and monitoring and advice to the forest owners.</p> <p>For the management of state forests, the State Forest Management Centre, the state profit institution is responsible. Balanced development through the enhancement of the economic, social and environmental values of forests has been set as the primary goal of organization.</p>		
Main <i>public</i> organizations forest policy: - forest administration  - public forest agencies (national level)  - research, education and training institutions  - other (please specify)	Name (full formal name)	Forest-related staff (2005, FTE)	Administrative budget (mil€,2005)
	Ministry of the Environment (MoE)	10	
	County Environmental Departments (MoE)	110	
	Center of Forest Protection and	70	
	Estonian University of Life Sciences		
	Environmental Inspectorate	40	
Main <i>private</i> organizations relevant for forest policy: (interest groups and associations)	Private Forest Owners Association		
	Estonian Forest Industries		
	Estonian Fund for Nature		
other organizations relevant for forest policy (e.g. private-public bodies)	Private Forest Center		
Main forest policy co-ordination mechanisms	<p>Please describe the main formal mechanisms of policy co-ordination between the organizations above, if any. Please specify the year of establishment and major experiences, as appropriate (see reporting note) [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The national level Forestry Roundtable (FR) has been working as a cooperation forum for public administration, private sector and NGOs. FR was established in June 2003.</p>		
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.2</b>			
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:			
a) support the establishment of associations of private forest owners and forest entrepreneurs? (Ref.: VD/12; V2/18, 19)	<p>Please specify whether or not, if yes, in what form, and results so far. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>According to the Forest Act the state support to private forestry concludes also the support to forestry-related joint activities of private forest owners. Although there is no direct support for the establishment of associations the allocation of resources intended for the development of the joint activities of private forest owners has increased in recent years.</p>		
b) establish or improve intersectoral co-ordination or communication mechanisms? (Ref.: VD/15, 18; V1/ 6)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which major measures were taken [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Forest Sector Communication Strategy in 2006–2008 was designed as a base to foster cross- and intersectoral cooperation. The aim is to raise the efficiency in communication activities.</p>		

**Further measures taken related to A.2 and comments:**

Reporting notes:

1. Institutional framework is understood to refer mainly to the organizational set-up of forest policy in the country. It further comprises formal co-ordinating mechanisms between these (incl. e.g. nfp).
2. Please describe federal structures and further sub-national level organizational structures under "main characteristics".
3. Please list organizations with a mandate to develop or implement forest policy on the national level only. Note that all major organizations listed in Part B should also be listed here. Interest groups and associations include e.g. private forest owners, environmental NGOs.
4. In case of public organizations, please specify forest-related staff (number, in full-time equivalent) and budget only. Use the "comments" section for further specification, if needed.
5. Note that mechanisms referred to in A.2 a) and A.2 b) include nfps – please do not repeat from A1 (text there will be taken into account). It also includes public-private partnership initiatives.

<b>A.3 Legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments</b>			
Main characteristics of legal/regulatory framework	<p>general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to legal/regulatory frameworks since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The purpose of the Forest Act is to ensure the protection and sustainable management of the forest as an ecosystem. Forest management is sustainable if it ensures biological diversity, the productivity, regeneration capacity and vitality of forests, and the possibility of multiple uses of forest in a way that satisfies ecological, economic, social, and cultural needs.</p> <p>The national Forest Act (FA) was approved by the Parliament in June 2006. The new Forest Act came into force in 01.01.2007</p>		
Main forest and SFM related legal/regulatory act	<p>Please list the main legal act related to forests and SFM (see also Part B)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Forest law, act or code</td> <td> <p>Name: Forest Act Date of adoption: 7 June 2006 Main changes from previous legal act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- strict reforestation obligation including in relevant cases deposit or precept;</li> <li>- the state support to private forestry through foundation;</li> <li>- verification of forest management plans by competent authority.</li> <li>- owners right for compensation if due to restrictions to the management of forests apply</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	Forest law, act or code	<p>Name: Forest Act Date of adoption: 7 June 2006 Main changes from previous legal act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- strict reforestation obligation including in relevant cases deposit or precept;</li> <li>- the state support to private forestry through foundation;</li> <li>- verification of forest management plans by competent authority.</li> <li>- owners right for compensation if due to restrictions to the management of forests apply</li> </ul>
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Main priorities and measures in <i>international</i> forest related commitments	<p>Please describe, incl. significant changes related to international characteristics since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Implementation of international forestry related commitments is integrated into Environmental Action Plan and NFP, main priority is biodiversity conservation.</p>		
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.3:</b>			
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:			
a) improve security of property rights (Ref.: V3/7)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In accordance with article 32 of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia the property rights of each individual are inviolable and equally protected. The current legislation of Estonia gives foreigners and stateless persons the same rights with respect to private property as Estonian citizens, with the exception of areas where certain specific restrictions have been established.</p>		
b) address forest law enforcement  (Ref.: VD/20; V4/6, 7)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Estonia participates in the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA FLEG) process and the FLEGT-process of the European Union.</p>		
c) support enabling environments for SFM and investment  (Ref.: V2/7)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Regulation No 22 of 14 March 2007 of the Minister of Environment gives the opportunities for financial support to private forest owners. Measures cover silvicultural, cultural investments, support to private owners' joint activities and biodiversity protection.</p>		
d) support international processes, commitments and their implementation in - UNFF, CPF, IPF/IFF proposals for action, - CBD, - UNFCCC and Kyoto	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which, separately for the different commitments [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Estonia has ratified the CBD, the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol and participates in further work under these conventions.</p>		

Protocol (Ref.: VD/23, 24; V4/4, 14, V5/6, 10)	
<b>Further measures taken related to A.3 and comments:</b>	
(incl. e.g. on UNCCD)	

- Reporting notes:
1. Commitments, signature and ratification of major international commitments will be collected from the relevant conventions (UNFF, CBD, UNFCCC, CCD, ITTO, CITES, Ramsar, etc.).
  2. Under “Main characteristics” please describe situation of legal frameworks with respect to distribution of responsibilities in general (central or federal, the diversity of key legal acts) as well as significant changes related to legal/regulatory frameworks and international characteristics since 2003.

<b>A.4 Financial instruments/economic policy</b>							
Main characteristics of forest-related economic policy	<p>Please describe, incl. significant changes related to economic policy since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Main principles of public support to private forestry and thereby to enhance SFM are set in the NFP. In the Forest Act support measures are described in more detail and the law appoints foundation Private Forest Center as the responsible agency for state support in that field.</p> <p>State Forest Management Center shall transfer 26 per cent of the profit from the sale of regeneration cutting right and the sale of timber to the state budget for common environmental purposes.</p>						
Main characteristics of financial instruments	<p>Please describe characteristics of main financial instruments, incl. significant changes in financial instruments since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>According to the Forest Act the main characteristics of financial instruments</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Main budget line / programme</td> <td>Name: Forest Act Target/objective: Support to private forestry Forest-related budget: 3,5 mil € for period 2004-2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Main budget line / programme</td> <td>Name: Environmental Charges Act Target/objective: Forest programme Forest-related budget: 4,8 mil € for period 2004-2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Main budget line / programme</td> <td>Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period</td> </tr> </table>	Main budget line / programme	Name: Forest Act Target/objective: Support to private forestry Forest-related budget: 3,5 mil € for period 2004-2006	Main budget line / programme	Name: Environmental Charges Act Target/objective: Forest programme Forest-related budget: 4,8 mil € for period 2004-2006	Main budget line / programme	Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period
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Main budget line / programme	Name: Environmental Charges Act Target/objective: Forest programme Forest-related budget: 4,8 mil € for period 2004-2006						
Main budget line / programme	Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period						
Main reference document(s): (please list documents with reference numbers)							
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.4:</b>							
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:							
a) set incentives for investment, including innovative economic instruments (Ref.: V2/7, 17)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures, what they aim to address, dimension, and effects so far. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Measures in the regulations are oriented to increase economic value of forests or set incentives to private forest owners to preserve cultural heritage and valuable forest habitats.</p>						
<b>Further measures taken related to A.4 and comments:</b>							
<p>Under the Estonian Rural Development Plan, Estonia plans to implement the following rural development measures financed by the EAFRD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improving the economic value of forests and adding value to forestry products;</li> <li>- adding value to agricultural and non-wood forestry products, development of new products;</li> <li>- developing the infrastructure of agriculture and forestry;</li> <li>- support for establishment of protection forest;</li> <li>- support for establishment of energy shrubs;</li> <li>- Natura 2000 support for private forest land.</li> </ul>							

Reporting notes:

1. Main budget lines/programmes: please list the top three governmental funding programmes related to forestry, incl. governmental (public) programmes or budget lines with a relevant or significant forestry component. Target group of these budget lines include not only forest owners or state forest enterprises but also research and education institutions.

<b>A.5 Informational means</b>	
Main characteristics of informational policies	<p>Please describe main characteristics and programmes, incl. significant changes in informational means since 2003. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Systematic monitoring of forests and forestry has been one of the main goals in recent years to provide timely and sufficient information for decision-making at all levels in society. Implementation of several informational means have taken place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- further development of sample-plot based National Forest Inventory to incorporate the data-needs of international and domestic data-users;</li> <li>- development and implementation of information system of the State Register for Accounting of Forest Resource (Forest Register), to provide forestry administration with GIS-based information on all forest management planning data.</li> </ul> <p>CONTINUES in further measures</p>
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.5:</b> Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) develop and use national level criteria and indicators for SFM, incl. in nfps? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/1)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, please describe measures. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Pan-European set of criteria and indicators has been used as basis for the development of informational means (NFI, information systems) and reporting. No further developments took place in given period to further elaborate national set of criteria. Data on indicators have been used in the formulation of the Estonian Forestry Development Program until 2010, in drafting the forestry legislation and regular monitoring of forest policy implementation.</p>
b) improve data-collection on SFM and monitoring of - biodiversity - carbon stock and climate impact? (Ref.: V4/9, 13; V5/7,9,10; L2/2, 4, 6)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Estonian National Forest Inventory is the main data source for data-collection on SFM (including the stocks of biomass and carbon in forest, biodiversity). Efforts have been made to develop the methodology in line with the data-needs of different national and international processes; new biodiversity indicators were introduced to NFI in given period. Development of additional data sources is on-going (e.g. Information System for Monitoring of Sustainable Forest Management on forest management activities).</p> <p>Estonian Statistical Yearbook of Forestry (published yearly by Estonian Centre of Forest protection and Silviculture) gives thorough statistical information of Estonian forests and forestry</p>
c) use C&I in assessment, evaluation and reporting? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/3, 4)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Needs arising from the revised Pan-European Criteria and Indicators (Vienna 2003) have been used in development of informational means and reporting to the MCPFE.</p>
<b>Further measures taken related to A.5 and comments:</b>	
<p>Main characteristics of informational policies CONTINUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-elaboration and implementation of the Information System for the Monitoring of Sustainable Forest Management: system provides GIS based information for forestry administration and enables the cross-usage of forestry data by different institutions; core of the system is the Forest Register whereupon the other data-layers are installed (forest notifications, field inventories of forest management activities and forest damages, data of woodland key habitats), system enables the usage of other data needed (cadastral data, data of protected areas, Land Title Book etc); system includes the e-service component e-Notification where forest owners can submit on-line the forest notifications;</li> <li>- forest monitoring pursuant to the ICP-Forest Manual has continued (incl. the extension of the national network of level 2 permanent sample plots), soil monitoring according to new methodology started in 2006;</li> <li>- regular publication of statistical information continued, on-line publishing possibilities have been more</li> </ul>	

extensively utilised by several institutions;  
- forestry information is regularly distributed by extension and consultation services, in public events like "Forest Week) and via electronic and audio-visual media.

**Reporting note:**

1. A.5. a): this includes the use of the MCPFE Assessment guidelines

## B. Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area

<b>B.1: Land use and forest area and OWL</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: The Planning Act (2003); The Land Readjustment Act (1995); The Forest Act (2007). Date of issuance: Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Main aim is to organise land use enhancing sustainable and balanced development.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Ministry of the Internal Affairs (development, monitoring and evaluation of spatial planning) - Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of land use) - County Administrative Boards (monitoring and supervision of land use) - Municipalities (implementation of land use)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Planning Act regulates relations between the state, local governments and other persons in the preparation of plans. The Land Readjustment Act provides the procedure and principles for land readjustment. The Forest Act provides procedure and principles for forest land deforestation and regulates fellings, including the regeneration requirements.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.1: Were measures taken in 2003-2007?</b>	
Please describe	
<b>Further measures taken related to B.1 and comments:</b>	

Reporting note:

1. Under "Main characteristics" please also describe whether land use and ownership rights are an issue in specific areas and whether policies exist to increase (or decrease) forest area (or, specifically, forested land, including short rotation forests).

<b>B.2: Carbon balance</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Government Directive "Categories of Activities of Operators and Trade Arrangements for Greenhouse Gas Emissions" (2005) Forest Act (2007) Development Plan for the Promotion of Biomass and Bioenergy Usage in 2007–2013 (2007) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] One of the strategic objectives of the National Long-term Public Fuel and Energy Sector Development Plan until 2015 is to increase the share of renewable energy sources. To fulfill the strategy the principle should be followed: Formation of the state fuel policy is based on the need to increase the importance of domestic renewable fuels in the energy balance, at the same time taking account of the principle of economic rationality and security of supply. Carbon stocks in forests will increase by sustainable forest management i.e. balanced management, protection and utilisation of forests will guarantee continuous sequestration of carbon in forest biomass and soil. Enhanced use of wood in different products will contribute to the carbon sequestration.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance Ministry of Agriculture
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Government Directive "Categories of Activities of Operators and Trade Arrangements for Greenhouse Gas Emissions" will provide framework for emissions trade and thereby promote reducing of emissions. Development Plan for the Promotion of Biomass and Bio-energy Usage in 2007–2013 supports the relevant activities in R&D, market analysis and regulations, knowledge and technology transfer. Wooden biomass is seen as one of the main biomass sources. Investments in bio-energy production, re- and afforestation and tending of young stands are subsidized. Forest Act serves as main instrument in guaranteeing the sustainability of forest management and carbon stocks in forests.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.2:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003–2007 to:	
a) promote the SFM concept in the Kyoto Protocol context, particularly on afforestation? (Ref.:VD/21, V5/6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] The carbon sequestration has been continuously increasing in last decade due to the natural and artificial forestation of abandoned agricultural areas. Subsidies for forestation have been available to support the efforts. <sup>±</sup>
b) promote substitution of non-renewables, particularly bio-energy (see also B.4)? (Ref.: V5/5,6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Development Plan for the Promotion of Biomass and Bio-energy Usage in 2007–2013 will provide the framework for development and usage of renewables in coming years.

Investment subsidies in bio-energy production, re- and afforestation and tending of young stands promote the better usage and maintenance of bio-energy (wooden biomass) stocks.  
Subsidies have been used for the installment of boiler houses which use wood and biomass.

**Further measures taken related to B.2 and comments:**

<b>B.3: Health and vitality</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: The Forest Act (2007) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Maintaining productive capacity and biological diversity are key factors in ensuring a healthy forest ecosystem, fixed in Forest Act and Estonian Forestry Development Program until 2010. Technical aspects are formulated in the Regulations of Forest Management
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Responsible organisations are the Ministry of Environment and the Centre of Forest Protection and Silviculture
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Monitoring of forest ecosystems according to the ICP Forest Manual. National Forest Inventory. Regular assessment of the populations of pest species. Expertise of heavily damaged forest areas and planning of activities for forest protection in both, state and private forests.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.3:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen research, monitoring and impact assessment of climate change and carbon stocks? (Ref.: V5/6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) strengthen adaptability of forests to climate change? (Ref.: V5/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
<b>Further measures taken related to B.3 and comments:</b>	
(e.g. further measures to address health and vitality)	

<b>B.4: Production and use of wood</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: The Forest Act (2007) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The aim of the Forest Act and NFP is to ensure SFM, whilst the latter gives additional objective to be efficient in forest management, securing an efficient production and effective utilization of forest based products and services.  The Forest Act ensures biological diversity, the productivity, regeneration capacity and vitality of forests, and the possibility of multiple uses of forest in a way that satisfies ecological, economic, social, and cultural needs.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) - County Environmental Departments (monitoring and implementation) - Center of Forest Protection and Silviculture (monitoring, coordinating and verification of forest management plans) - Environmental Inspectorate (supervision) - State Forest Management Centre (management of state forest) - Estonian Forest Industry Association (implementation)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Forest Act ensures sustainable forest management regulating forest fellings and reforestation and other relevant issues.  One of the main instruments is forest management plan, which is prerequisite for most forest management activities. Forest management planning ensures sound use of wood.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.4:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote the sound use of wood?  (Ref.: VD/9, V2/8, V5/5, L1/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Public subsidies are used for the advising and training of private forest owners and forest management plans preparation. Public campaigns have been used to promote the sound use of wood.
b) promote the use of wood from sustainable sources?  (Ref.: V2/8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
<b>Further measures taken related to B.4 and comments:</b>	
(e.g. policies addressing the use of wood as energy source or for construction purposes)	

<b>B.5 Production and use of non-wood goods and services, especially provision of recreation</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Forest Act (2007) Date of issuance: Date of adoption 7 June 2006 Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The NFP sets objective to provide general public with as diversified forest use opportunities as possible without damaging forests. The Forest Diversified Use Action Plan (2006) sets objectives for production of non-wood goods, cultural heritage and recreation. Recreational objectives are to raise capacity of sustainable nature tourism including enhancement of services' diversity and quality and sustainable management of recreational areas.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] -Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring and implementation of the Forest Act and the Nature Conservation Act) -State Nature Conservation Centre (monitoring and implementation) -State Forest Management Centre (implementation)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Forest Act ensures free access to forests and the right to collect natural products. The Hunting Act ensures the preservation of wild game resources as renewable resources for as large a number of persons as possible. State Forest Management Centre (RMK) offers versatile nature education and recreation possibilities in the state forests.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.5:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision for non-wood goods? (Ref.: V2/9)	Please describe measures, which non-wood goods they address, the characteristics of these measures and effects, if any [max. 100 words] No measures have been taken during 2003–2006. Forest Diversified Use Action Plan (2006) sets action plan to conduct analysis on the influence and possibility of tax exemption for non-wood goods.
b) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision of services, esp. recreational services? (Ref.: V2/9)	Please describe measures, which services they try to promote, the characteristics of these measures and effects, if any, particularly for recreational services [max. 100 words]
<b>Further measures taken related to B.5 and comments:</b>	

<b>B.6 Biodiversity</b>		
Ecosystem / habitat / protected areas / landscape patterns	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) The Nature Conservation Act (2004) 2) The Forest Act (2007) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Relevant objectives from the Nature Conservation Act: 1) protect the natural environment by promoting the preservation of biodiversity through ensuring the natural habitats; 2) preserve natural environments of cultural or esthetical value, or elements thereof.  In the NFP the chapter protection of ecosystems defines the objective to ensure the preservation of biodiversity in the forests of Estonia.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] -Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring and implementation) -State Nature Conservation Centre (implementation) -State Forest Management Centre (implementation)
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Establishment of protected areas is based on the Nature Conservation Act and on the relevant proposals containing information on high nature value, discoveries of new sites of threatened species, etc. National targets are related mainly to Estonia's membership in the EU and the Natura 2000 process. Specific quantitative targets have been established for designating protected areas for species of the three protection categories provided in the NCA. Designation of species protection sites for all protected species is underway. Estonian Nature Conservation Development Program until 2035 is aiming to ensure preservation of biodiversity in the commercial forests and protected forests. The Estonian Forestry Development Plan has set target to increase the area of strictly protected up to 10 % of the total forest area of Estonia. The Forest Act defines valuable forest habitats and the voluntary protection mechanism for commercial forests in private ownership, which has been operative since 1999.
Species diversity, incl. tree species composition and threatened forest species	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) The Nature Conservation Act (2004) 2) The Forest Act (2007) Date of issuance: Formal status:
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Nature Conservation Development Program until 2035 aims are : - to have updated overview of all natural forest species status - to preserve endangered species and habitats

	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Ministry of the Environment: Nature Conservation Department and Forest Department (development, monitoring and implementation) - State Nature Conservation Centre (implementation) - County Environmental Departments (implementation)
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Nature Conservation Act (NCA) was passed by the Parliament in 2004. Up to that, species protection was regulated mainly by the Protected Natural Objects Act (1994). The NCA establishes rules for species protection, both for protecting individuals of threatened species in any location where they might be present and for preserving their habitats in specially designated species protection sites important for maintaining local populations or entire species. Such species protection sites constitute a new measure of species protection.  Protection of the species listed in Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and in the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) has been strengthened by the establishment of Natura sites and the respective protection rules, which take into account the different protection needs of different species.
Genetic diversity, incl. in situ and ex situ gene conservation and seed production	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) The Forest Act (2007) 2) The Plant Propagation and Plant Variety Rights Act (2005) 3) The Plant Protection Act (2006) Date of issuance: Formal status: legal
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] A forest may be reforested only with tree species suitable for the forest site type listed in the Forest Management Regulation. The basic material of the cultivating material used for reforestation shall originate from a permitted region of origin. A forest owner is required to apply reforestation methods in protection and commercial forests in perished parts of forest or clear cut areas with an area of at least 0.5 hectares within two years after the cutting or perishing thereof.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Centre of Forest Protection and Silviculture
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 18,45 hectares new seed orchards have been established (10,82 ha Scots pine; 5,7 Norway spruce; 0,5 Black alder; 1,43 Silver birch), Periodical inventory of gene pool forests and objects of forest tree breeding. The scions from 223 not presented plus trees (80 Scots pine, 26 Norway spruce, 46 Silver birch, 35 Black alder, 15 maple (Acer platanoides), 10 oak (Quercus robur), and 11 ash (Fraxinus excelsior)) in seed orchards or clonal archives have been collected and grafted. 2546 hectares of pine selection seed stands have been selected.

**MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.6:**

Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:

<p>a) promote biodiversity strategy development and planning? (Ref.: VD/8,22; V4/6,14,15)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] To enhance and protect the biodiversity following strategies and actions plans were elaborated: the Environmental Strategy 2030 (2007), the Environmental Action Plan 2007-2013 (2007), the Nature Conservation Development Program until 2035 (2006)</p>
<p>b) improve impact assessments and monitoring of biodiversity? (Ref.: V4/6,13)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] The Estonian National Biological Diversity Monitoring Program 1994. The result of PHARE project entitled "Establishment of a GIS based Biodiversity Monitoring System for Estonia" 1998. The Biodiversity Monitoring Master Plan for Estonia 1999 to 2005. The Master Plan has constituted a basis for biological diversity monitoring in Estonia deals with monitoring of habitat diversity.</p> <p>The recent changes in the Estonian National Biological Diversity Monitoring Program have been directed mainly towards monitoring of the status of species and habitats of Natura 2000, which is a requirement for all EU member states.</p> <p>Special biodiversity indicators have been developed and implemented since 2003 in national forest inventory and since 2005 for statistical forest inventory.</p>
<p>c) further develop protected forest networks or similar? (Ref.: V4/10,15,16)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] As result of the inventory of valuable forest areas held in framework of the project Forest Conservation Area Network (1999–2001) the suggestion was made to establish protected areas on 38000 ha of forest lands. Today of these areas ca 34000 ha are protected.</p> <p>The NFP has set target that the forest area of strict protection should increase to 10% of the total forest area of Estonia. In March 2006 the share of strictly protected forest areas was 9,3% (209 400 ha ).</p> <p>The compensation mechanism for protected forests of private ownership has been elaborated and will come in force in 2007.</p>
<p>d) prevent loss and fragmentation and to restore degraded forests? (Ref.: V4/11,12)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p>
<p><b>Further measures taken related to B.6 and comments:</b> (incl. e.g. on dead wood, regeneration and naturalness in multi-functional forests)</p>	

<b>B.7 Protective services</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: The Forest Act (2007) Date of issuance: Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The owner of a forest is required to manage and permit his or her forest to be managed only in such a way which does not endanger the forest as an ecosystem or damage the gene pool, forest soil or water regime, and the conditions for forest regeneration and reforestation to an extent larger than permitted by legislation, which does not allow wind damages or the spread of fungus diseases or pests and which is in accordance with the principles of the sustainable use of forest, and protect the forest against the deterioration of site conditions. According to the Forest Act protection forest is located in the limited management zone of a special conservation area, protected area, individual protected natural object, species protection site, shore or bank, except in the limited management zone of the artificial recipient of a land improvement system, or of a canal or water conduit.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Protection forests are designated by the Minister of the Environment on the proposal of the County Environmental Departments under the Ministry of the Environment.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] A protected forest shall be managed pursuant to the provisions of Forest Act and the Nature Conservation Act and the protection rules. In forest management plans the recommendations for reforestation, regulation of the water and nutrition regime of forest soil, forest protection and construction of roads on forest land are set.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.7:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen protective services? (Ref.: VD/10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) contribute to reduce the impact of climate-related disasters? (Ref.: V5/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
<b>Further measures taken related to B.7 and comments:</b>	

Reporting note:

1. Protective services cover services as specified in MCPFE indicators 5.1 “Protective forests – soil, water and other ecosystem functions” and 5.2 “Protective forests – infrastructure and managed natural resources”

<b>B.8 Economic viability</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: The Forest Act Date of issuance: 2007 Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] To ensure the protection and sustainable management of the forest as an ecosystem is the main objective according the Forest Act. SFM is aiming at ensuring the biological diversity, the productivity, regeneration capacity and vitality of forests, and the possibility of multiple uses of forest. The duties of the state in forestry are: ensuring the good state of forest, the accounting of forest resource, support to private forestry, administration and management of state forest, organization of state supervision and ensuring the protection of biological diversity of forest.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Ministry of the Environment (Forest Department, County Environmental Departments, (implementation)), The Environmental Inspectorate (supervision), the Center of Forest Protection and Silviculture (organisation of forest inventory, coordination of preparation of forest management plans, reforestation and forest protection and the maintenance of relevant databases). - Private Forest Centre (implementation support to private forest owners), - The State Forest Management Center ( the management of state forests)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Forest act provides framework for following supporting measures by partial financing: 1) the advising and training of private forest owners; 2) the training of agricultural advisers in the area of forest management; 3) the investments aimed at increasing the economic, ecological, social and cultural value of the forest and the forest growing works, including the preservation of heritage culture and key biotopes, and the works aimed at forest improvement; 4) forestry-related joint activities of private forest owners; 5) measures to avoid forest damages in a private forest; 6) preparation of forest management plans.  Under the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) the private forest owners and forest owners' organizations have been supported in rural areas.  State Forest Management Center (SFMC, state-profit organization managing ca 35% of total forest area) is transferring 26% of the profit from the sale of regeneration cutting right and the sale of timber to the state budget for common environmental purposes. CONTINUES in further measures.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.8:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote innovation, entrepreneurship and to encourage investment in the context of SFM? (Ref.: V2/7,11	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Public support is given to the improvement of the economic value of private forests, to the development of economic activities creating additional value to forestry products and to the attainment of the competitiveness of forest

	management in the long run.
b) include economic viability and livelihood issues in rural development policy? (Ref.: VD/7, V2/16)	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The one general objective of National Development Plan (NDP) for the Implementation of the EU Structural Funds 2004–2006 was to ensure a balanced and sustainable economic and social development of rural areas.</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the organisation of EU structural Funds' subsidies. The following subsidies are provided to private forest owners and forest owners' associations in the framework of NDP: improvement of forest infrastructure, development of technologies of forest logging operations and reconstruction of damaged forests after natural disaster and fires, have increased the competitiveness of rural areas and environmental management.</p>
c) promote the voluntary cooperation of forest owners and addressed economic viability challenges? (Ref.: VD/12, V2/15,17)	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>State supports forestry-related joint activities of private forest owners like neighbourhood watch, economical co-operation of small projects, school forest projects. Support to forest associations has increased during last years.</p> <p>NDP supports establishment of associations of forest owners for more sustainable and efficient forest management.</p>
d) promote the valuation of full range of forest goods & services, incorporate results into accounting systems (Ref.: V2/10, L1/9, 10)	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>To promote the valuation of full range of forest goods and services the Forest Diversified Use Action Plan (2006) was prepared. The plan contains 3 main theme areas: -growing and production for marketing of non-wood products -recreation management -preservation of cultural heritage in forests.</p> <p>By the Forest Act state subsidies are allocated to the preservation of heritage culture since year 2007.</p>
<b>Further measures taken related to B.8 and comments:</b>	
<b>Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.</b>	

<b>B.9 Employment (incl. safety and health)</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Employment Contracts Act (1992), Working and Rest Time Act (2001), Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Specific Areas of Activity (1999), etc Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Estonian Forest Policy states that one of the main aims to enhance the development of forest sector is the development of education system in order to satisfy the labor market needs with skilled labor in forestry and forest industry. Education system should provide the professionals with balanced skills for the management taking into the consideration relevant economic, social and environmental aspects. CONTINUES in further measures
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]  - Ministry of Environment - Ministry of Education and Research - Labor Inspectorate - Ministry of Social Affairs
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Use and processing of wood influences most the workforce in forest sector while the use of other goods and services has growing share.  Legal framework for occupational health and safety in forest sector is set up by different legal acts (see above) valid for all sectors. s
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.9:</b> Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) enhance workforce safety and improve work environment?  (Ref.: V2/14, L1/8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Labor Inspectorate is carrying out the regular monitoring of the implementation of legislation including working conditions in forest sector.  Subsidies for different forestry related activities (including investments and cooperative measures) have promoted entrepreneurship and stabilized labor market in forest sector. Coordinating Chamber of Education involving all relevant stakeholders was set up.
<b>Further measures taken related to B.9 and comments:</b>	
Main Objective CONTINUES:  In the Estonian Forestry Development Plan until 2010 the objectives for development of education system are: ensure the development of educational institutions within integrated framework (set up the co-coordinating chamber from relevant stakeholders), increase the competition among master's and doctoral students, support participation in international training programmes. The preparation of qualified loggers – chainsaw and forest machinery operators – will be emphasised within the vocational education field.	

<b>B.10 Public awareness</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Date of issuance: Formal status:
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] According to the Communication Strategy of the Forest Sector the main aims are: inform the community about the forests of the country, forests conditions and management. Understanding of role of forests should be improved in society. Streamlined and coordinated informing of different stakeholders about forest sector is the challenge for coming years (using official periodical publications, mass media, special statistical publications). The main target groups are students, media, politicians.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] -Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Centre of Forest Protection and Silviculture (implementation) -Private Forest Center (implementation) -Private Forest Owners Union (implementation) -State Forest Management Centre (implementation) -Estonian Forest Industries Association
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Implementation of the Forest Sector Communication Strategy for 2006-2008 is coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment and is involving in implementation the Ministry of the Environment, Private Forest Centre, Private Forest Owners Union, Estonian Forest Industries Association, Estonian Fund for Nature.  Centre of Forest Protection and Silviculture is annually issuing Statistical Yearbook of Forestry, containing official statistical data on Estonian forest sector. .
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation to B.10:</b> Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) develop dialogue with the public, incl. through awareness raising programmes? (Ref.: L1/1)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]  Environmental Investment Centre has an environmental awareness program. According to program forestry related public awareness measures have been supported.
<b>Further measures taken related to B.10 and comments:</b>	

<b>B.11 Research, training and education</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Forestry Development Programme until 2010 (NFP) Date of issuance: 2002 Formal status:
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] To ensure forestry research and education on a level meeting international requirements and satisfying the local needs. Forestry education will be preferred to research in the allocation of the state budget resources. The main emphasis will be placed on teaching forest ecology and forestry economics on an internationally acceptable level. Curriculum development will be co-ordinated between the corresponding educational institutions of the Baltic States and the Scandinavian countries to achieve more economical utilisation of resources. To direct scientific research, priority research topics will be defined and their long-term financing ensured. Applied research in forest ecology, forest and timber measurement, forest appraisal and inventories (incl. forest monitoring), modeling of forest growth and forest use will be defined as priority topics
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] -Ministry of Education, -Ministry of the Environment, -Ministry of Economic Affairs, -Ministry of Agriculture, -Estonian University of Life Sciences, -Tallinn University of Technology, -The Estonian Forest Industries Association, -The State Forest Management Center, -Center of Forest Protection and Silviculture
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] In order to ensure the development of various educational institutions in a coordinated manner satisfying the needs of the society, and within an integrated framework of forestry education, a Co-operation Chamber of research and educational institutions teaching forestry and wood processing, the Ministries of Education, Agriculture, Economic Affairs and the Environment and various employers associations is formed.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.11:</b>	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen research, increase interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research? (Ref.: VD/17, V3/ 11, V4/17, V5/ 6,7)	Please describe measures, including in forest biodiversity and carbon-related issues, and socio-cultural aspects, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]  According to the NFP in research, the main emphasis is placed on teaching forest ecology and forestry economics. To ensure the preservation of the existing elements of biodiversity in the forests of Estonia, NFP reckons with ecological and economic, as well as social interests. Applied research in forest ecology, forest and timber measurement, forest appraisal and inventories (incl. forest monitoring), modelling of forest growth and forest use are defined as priority topics.
b) enhance the quality of education, training and	Please describe measures, including on socio-cultural aspects as well as on promoting new opportunities and techniques, their characteristics and effects,

extension and other forms of knowledge dissemination?  
(Ref.: V2/12,13, V3/6, L1/4,6)

if any [max. 100 words]

To increase the awareness of the general public of developments in the forests and sustainable forest management principles, relevant information programs are launched. For this purpose, the state will finance the preparation of training program for the students and teachers of environmental courses, their implementation and provision with training materials as well as the more extensive inclusion of environmental education in the curricula of comprehensive schools. Under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Environment, additional resources are allocated to the informing of the general public about what is happening in and with the forest.

**Further measures taken related to B.11 and comments:**

<b>B.12 Cultural and spiritual values</b>	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) The Forest Act (2007) 2) The Nature Conservation Act (2004) 3) The Heritage Conservation Act (2002) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ensuring the natural environments of cultural or esthetical value and cultural heritage in forests.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Ministry of Culture (development, monitoring, implementation and evaluation) - National Heritage Board (implementation) - Municipalities (development and implementation) - Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, implementation and evaluation) - County Environmental Departments (monitoring and supervision) - State Forest Management Centre (implementation)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Heritage Conservation Act aims to protection of monuments and heritage conservation areas and in ensuring the preservation of monuments and heritage conservation areas. In forests these are sites of historical-, archaeological and cultural value, which are protected by law and the surrounding forest is under protection regime.  The Nature Conservation Act aims to preserve natural environments of cultural or esthetical value.  The Forest Act aims to enhance the preservation of cultural heritage sites in forests, which are not protected by law.
<b>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.12:</b> Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) reflect the socio-cultural dimensions in policies? (Ref.: VD/11, V3/5,6,8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] In the NFP the importance of social and cultural dimensions of forestry has been reflected. In 2006 the Forest Diversified Use Action Plan was elaborated. Plan has set aims and measures for awareness raising, education including promotion of traditional skills of the cultural values. The Communication Strategy of the Forest Sector 2006-2008 sets actions for communication and education of the social and cultural dimensions of SFM. Strategy includes actions (program) concerning promotion of wood as building material. State Forest Management Centre has raised awareness of social and cultural aspects of SFM, created forest recreation possibilities (infrastructure, campaigns etc).
b) enhance the landscape attractiveness and their protection, including of traditional knowledge and practices?	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] In the framework of county planning theme plans "valuable landscapes" with the aim of defining also landscapes with cultural and historical values and determining the conditions for the development have been prepared.

<p>(V3/9)</p> <p>c) conserve and manage significant historical and cultural objects? (V3/10)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Most valuable historical and cultural objects are given status of monuments by the Heritage Conservation Act, which ensures the protection of such objects.</p>
<p><b>Further measures taken related to B.12 and comments:</b></p>	

# Part C: General reporting on Lisbon, Helsinki and Strasbourg Resolutions

## a) Lisbon Resolutions L1-L2

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

<b>Lisbon Resolution L1: People, Forests and Forestry - Enhancement of Socio-Economic Aspects of Sustainable Forest Management</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Lisbon Resolution L1	<p>Please describe measures not described in previous chapters, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The Forest Act (FA) was approved by the Parliament in June 2006. The Forest Act came into force from the beginning of 2007.</p> <p>Different already traditional forestry related measures of the public awareness program of Ministry of Environment (courses for journalists, workshops, publications, excursions, annual forest fair events, demonstration areas).</p>
<b>Lisbon Resolution L1 commitment implementation: aspects not covered in Parts A and B Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:</b>	
a) encourage studies on gender aspects of forest policy & practices?  (Ref.: L1/5)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]
b) evaluate the potential impacts of forest certification systems?  (Ref.: L1/11)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]

<b>Lisbon Resolution L2: Pan-European Criteria, Indicators and Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Lisbon Resolution L2	<p>Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Estonian National Standard for Sustainable Forest Management was developed in 2000, using Pan-European criteria and indicators as a reference framework</p> <p>Pan-European criteria and indicators were also used for development of the national forestry data collection and processing systems - Nation Forest Inventory and inventory for forest management planning, which data are available in State Register of Forest Resources.</p> <p>The ISO 14001-compatible environmental management system and state forest information system (the database of forest resources and new accounting system in State Forest Management Centre) was established</p>
<b>Lisbon Resolution L2 commitment implementation: aspects not covered in Parts A and B Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:</b>	
<p>a) promote national adaptation and use of the PEOLGs<sup>2</sup>?</p> <p>(Ref.: L2/7, 8)</p>	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]

<sup>2</sup> PEOLG = Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines

## b) Helsinki Resolutions H1-H4

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

<b>Helsinki Resolution H1: General Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Forests in Europe</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H1	<p>Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Previous Forest Act approved by Parliament in 1988. The valid national Forest Act (FA) was approved by the Parliament in June 2006. The forests in Estonia should be preserved, protected, expanded and multi-functionally managed in accordance with the Forest Act</p> <p>Estonian Forestry Development Program until 2010 was formulated in 2002 The cooperation and awareness between forest policy makers, forest owners, forest managers, forest industry, research, education and environmental NGO-s have a extremely important role in policy formulation and implementation</p>
<b>Helsinki Resolution H2: General Guidelines for the Conservation of the Biodiversity of European Forests</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H2	<p>Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]</p> <p>To protect the biodiversity in Estonian forests the areas of existing and planned protected forest areas were inventoried in 1999-2001. Development of network of new protected areas started in 2001 Existing and planned protected forest areas were inventoried in 1999-2001. Proposals for enlargement of the Estonian Forest Conservation Area Network by about 32000 ha of new areas, mainly in public forests, were formulated. In 2004-2006 Natura 2000 areas in forests were inventoried and formulated..</p>
<b>Helsinki Resolution H3: Forestry Cooperation with Countries in Transition</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H3	<p>Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]</p>
<b>Helsinki Resolution H4: Strategies for a Process of Long-term Adaptation of Forests in Europe to Climate Change</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H4	<p>Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]</p>

### c) Strasbourg Resolutions S1-S6

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

<b>Strasbourg Resolution S1: European Network of Permanent Sample Plots for Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S1	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Network of Permanent Sample Plots for Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems was established in Estonia already in 1988. Activities according the ICP-Forest Manual of Methods carried out on level 1 points in 1988-2006 (91 points in 2007) and on level 2 sample plots in 1998-2006 (7 sample plots in 2007)
<b>Strasbourg Resolution S2: Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S2	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] The network of in situ gene conservation units includes the gene reserve forests of the two major softwood species in Estonia – the Norway spruce and the Scots pine. At present the total area of the gene reserve forests is more than 2500 ha. The total area of the clone archives is more than 240 ha.
<b>Strasbourg Resolution S3: Decentralized European Data Bank on Forest Fires</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S3	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
<b>Strasbourg Resolution S4: Adapting the Management of Mountain Forests to New Environmental Conditions</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S4	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
<b>Strasbourg Resolution S5: Expansion of the EUROSILVA Network of Research on Tree Physiology</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S5	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
<b>Strasbourg Resolution S6: European Network for Research into Forest Ecosystems</b>	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S6	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]

## Part D: MCPFE quantitative indicator 6.4 “Expenditure for Services”

Forest owners, public and private, foundations, and public administrations incur additional expenditures for producing a range of services that are demanded by the public free of cost. These are, for instance, expenditures to maintain protective forests against natural hazards, for preventing soil erosion or for protecting water quality as well as social services. These services are an important contribution to the quality of life and safety of humankind. It is essential to ensure that these services are maintained and that adequate public funding is provided to cover the necessary related expenditures. The total national expenditures for services from the forests should provide quantitative information on the efforts of countries to provide such forest services.

Currently, information on expenditure for services is weak and data collection mechanisms have not yet been established. The MCPFE background documents on the pan-European criteria and indicators specifies that this indicator needs to be further elaborated before its full implementation. The current assessment has pilot character and intends to provide a first and preliminary overview on national expenditures for services. The results of the enquiry will be utilized to further develop this indicator. In line with the pilot character of the assessment, clear information on expenditures was not included in the enquiry on quantitative indicators, which was focusing on indicators, for which operational assessment schemes have already been implemented at the national level.

As in most countries no mechanisms have been established for collecting information on expenditures for services realised by a wide scope of funding sources, the current assessment is limited to ***expenditures from official administrative budgets.***

## Reporting Form A1: Expenditures for services

**MCPFE indicator 6.4** Total expenditures for long-term sustainable services from forests

**Rational:** Information is requested for expenditures for services from official administrative budgets

**Table 8: Non-wood Goods:**

C o d e	Expenditures for Services	Ref. year	Value (1000 [national currency])	Data Quality Value (1000 [national currency])	
				From	To
A 1 . 1	Recreational services	2005			
		2000			
		1990			
A 1 . 2	Environmental services	2005			
		2000			
		1990			
A 1 . 3	Protective services	2005			
		2000			
		1990			
A 1 . 4	Other services	2005			
		2000			
		1990			
		2000			
		1990			

**Data sources:**

For each service reported:

**Country specifications:**

For each service reported, as necessary:

**Country comments:**

**Reporting notes:**

1. The total expenditures for services from the forests should confine to expenditures from official administrative budgets and present quantitative information on the efforts of countries to provide such forest services.
2. Reference area for reporting is "Total FOWL", not further divided into sub-classes "Forest" and "Other wooded land". If data is available for sub-class "Forest" only, please report on this sub-class and provide note under "Country comments".
3. If data is available only for certain forest areas or ownership classes (e.g. state forests), but not for others, data should be reported with explicit indication of area (ha) and/or reference to the ownership class under "Country comments".
4. The class "Recreational Services" includes, for instance, expenditures such as hunting licences, fishing licences, managed outdoor recreation areas or trails for mountain biking, horse riding, skiing and other recreational activities
5. The class "Environmental Services" includes, for instance, expenditures for maintaining and enhancing of the natural habitat and biological diversity and contracts for conservation.

6. The class "Protective Services" includes, for instance, expenditures to maintain protective forests against natural hazards, for preventing soil erosion or for protecting water quality.
7. Please report in the country specifications the currency for which values have been provided.
8. Data Quality: please specify the likely range of values specified in column 4 "value".

**Definitions of "forest" and "other wooded land":**

<p>Forest</p>	<p><b>Land with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent and area of more than 0.5 ha. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>. May consist <u>either</u> of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground; <u>or</u> of open forest formations with a continuous vegetation cover in which tree crown cover exceeds 10 percent. Young natural stands and all plantations established for forestry purposes, which have yet to reach a crown density of 10 percent or tree height of 5m, are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area, which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest.</b></p> <p><u>Includes:</u> Forest nurseries and seed orchards that constitute an integral part of the forest; forest roads, cleared tracts, firebreaks and other small open areas within the forest; forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas such as those of special environmental, scientific, historical, cultural or spiritual interest; windbreaks and shelterbelts of trees with an area of more than 0.5 ha and a width of more than 20 m. Rubberwood plantations and cork oak stands are included.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>
<p>Other wooded land</p>	<p><b>Land either with a tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of 5-10 percent of trees able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>; or a crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent of trees not able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i> (e.g. dwarf or stunted trees) and shrub or bush cover.</b></p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Areas having the tree, shrub or bush cover specified above but of less than 0.5 ha and width of 20 m, which are classed under "other land"; Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>

## **ANNEX**

(see file Enquiry\_MCPFE\_qualitative\_Annexes.doc)

**Annex 1:** MCPFE commitments Vienna 2003

**Annex 2:** MCPFE qualitative indicators

**Annex 3:** Reference matrix of coverage of commitments through the structure provided by the MCPFE qualitative indicators

For MCPFE Resolutions and other documents please also refer to:

*<http://www.mcpfe.org/resolutions/>*